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The Romulus News

AUGUST 27, 2004 – SEPTEMBER 9, 2004 "the little paper" VOLUME 18 NUMBER 3

Timely Tidbits ...

St. Aloysius Festival

The annual St. Aloysius Festival will run from Friday, August 27, through Sunday, August 29. See pages 8 and 9 for details.

Back to School!

Just a friendly reminder that students attending the Romulus Community Schools will report for their first full day of classes on Wednesday, September 1.

Collections Wanted!

The Romulus Public Library is interested in borrowing special collections for a series of month-long exhibits in the library lobby.

"Patrons enjoy seeing unique items on display," explained Shelley DeLano, library director. "In the past, we have shown dolls, wood carvings, and model trucks.

"We know that area residents and business people have some really neat things that deserve to be shown," she added. "We hope that they will be willing to share them with us."

DeLano said that potential lenders need not worry about the safety of their collections, since both of the display cases in the lobby are kept locked at all times.

For more information on the this program, call 734-942-7589.

Get a Library Card

Library director DeLano is also urging prospective new patrons to stop in anytime in September, which has been designated "Get Your Library Card" Month.

"A library card entitles you to use the Internet and check out books, magazines, books on tape/CD, videos, DVDs, and CDs – all at no charge," she explained. "It gives you access to a wealth of valuable information."

According to DeLano, the library services both Romulus and Huron Township, and welcomes all people with valid cards from their home libraries.

The Romulus Public Library is located at 11121 Wayne Road, next to City Hall. For more information, call 734-942-7589. ❑

Parents Give Romulus Schools High Ratings

Tom Dolan, director of curriculum for the Romulus Community Schools, recently announced the results of parent surveys conducted by the district last spring.

"Our parens hold our schools in high esteem, and they gave district schools high satisfaction ratings in many areas," he said.

According to Dolan, 97% to 99% of parents responded favorably to questionnaire items such as:

- "My child is safe at school."
- "Teachers are available to students who want help."
- "Students receive appropriate recognition for good work."
- "Students are enthusiastic about learning."
- "Students like coming to school."
- "The discipline system is fair."
- "The principal is accessible to students and parents."

Dolan also reported that parents at Wick Elementary School praised the Compass–Odyssey Online Program, which helped students master lessons during after-school sessions.

"The program was part of the CSRD [Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration] grant that enabled students to work on lessons in a step-by-step fashion," he explained. "If a student did not pass the chapter test, he/she received additional training and tried again."

An award that Charles Kidwell, Wick's CSRD coordinator, received an from Electronic Data Systems (EDS) allowed him to make the program available to students at home, as well.

"Parents got weekly progress reports, and could access information about their child's progress via the Internet," Dolan noted. "The program also included special pretests that allowed students to begin instruction at appropriate levels."

Another well-received program was the implementation of monthly incentive assemblies. Excellent citizenship [no referrals] was required in order to attend these entertaining programs.

Parents and students additionally agreed that school buildings were clean and orderly.

Tom Dolan

"We have tried very hard to make our schools the best possible," said Dolan, "and it is very rewarding to have our parents and students give us high ratings on these questionnaires.

"We are always happy to have parents visit our schools, and we encourage them to stop by any time," he concluded. ❑

District's Routhier Receives ASBO Recognition

Bill Routhier

Bill Routhier, director of business and operations for the Romulus Community Schools, was recently honored by the Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO). The prestigious organization officially designated Routhier as a "registered school business administrator" (RSBA).

"The professional registration program promotes improvement in the quality of school business management, and encourages excellence among its practitioners," explained Dick Kruse, spokesperson for the school district. "Acknowledgment by ASBO International's registration program is one of the highest honors of professional achievement accorded in school business management."

Recipients of the RSBA title must meet or exceed ASBO International's selection criteria, which include the possession of a degree in higher education, the attainment of significant experience as a school business administrator, and the receipt of a letter of commendation from the employing school district's superintendent.

Routhier – who had previous business experience with the Dearborn, Taylor, and Westwood school districts – has been the Romulus Community Schools' business/operations director since June of 2000.

"Bill helped lead our district through the 1999 $34-million bond program," Kruse noted. "He also oversaw the construction of Romulus Elementary, the new pool complex, the new football stadium, and the new ball fields, as well as the renovation of the auditorium at the high school."

Routhier additionally supervised various new technology installations throughout the district, and implemented the Romulus Community Schools' new district-wide telephone system.

Yet another of his achievements, said Kruse, has been the refinancing of several debt levies, resulting in millions of dollars in savings to the taxpayers of Romulus.

And all of these projects have been accomplished while Routhier continued with his everyday duties, which include supervision of the Business Department at the district's administrative offices, oversight of the Transportation Department, and management of the district's buildings and grounds maintenance.

"Bill has done an outstanding job for the people of Romulus," said Kruse. "The entire community can be proud of his professional achievements." ❑

Letter to the Editor

Romak: Seniors Deserve Cable Discount

Editor's note: Romulus City Councilwoman Debbie Romak sent the following letter to Brian Roberts, CEO of Comcast, on August 10, 2004.

* * *

As an elected official of the City of Romulus, Michigan, I believe that providing services to our senior citizens is of extreme importance. Many seniors rely on cable to keep them informed and updated on various issues and activities in our community. In the past, seniors received a discount from Media One, and Comcast continued to honor that discount until recently, when City Council was informed of a corporate age policy.

I now find it necessary to bring this matter to the attention of corporate Comcast. It is obvious that only corporate can change policy and must be willing to do so. It is a fact that the majority of seniors – not just in Romulus, but everywhere – are living on fixed incomes. Seniors are trying diligently to maintain their quality of life on already stretched, hard-earned dollars.

Corporations, businesses, restaurants, and stores both large and small have realized how valuable senior customers are, and continue to offer some type of discount. It clearly demonstrates good corporate policy to have the ability to give back to a generation that has given so much and asks for so little.

Comcast is one of the largest cable companies in the country, creating a monopoly in the cable industry and leaving senior customers no choice in selecting another provider that would willingly offer them a discount. I hardly think that changing your policy would directly affect your shareholders' profits. It would, however, confirm that you are a community-oriented corporation addressing the needs of seniors. Cable television has become a modern-day necessity like home computers.

In closing, I would respectively request that Comcast live up to its "focus on community" by immediately reviewing and changing its corporate age policy so that seniors everywhere, not just in Romulus, may continue to enjoy and afford quality cable viewing on their hard-earned, stretched retirement dollars.

Sincerely,
Debbie Romak
Romulus City Council ❑

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The Romulus News

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We are sorry, but we cannot guarantee the return of any photograph submitted to us, although every attempt will be made to do so.

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The Romulus News will furnish "personal" (nonbusiness) advertisements, free of charge, to Romulus residents on a "space available" basis.

While every effort is made to insure that advertisement copy is error-free, *The Romulus News* is not responsible for problems resulting from typographical errors which may appear in any advertisement, and limits its liability to the advertiser to the cost of the ad.

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PEN Enrichment Community Center
Youth in Action Presents a

Jr. Choir Gospel Sing-Off Competition

Saturday, August 28, 2004
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35625 Vinewood, Romulus, MI 48174
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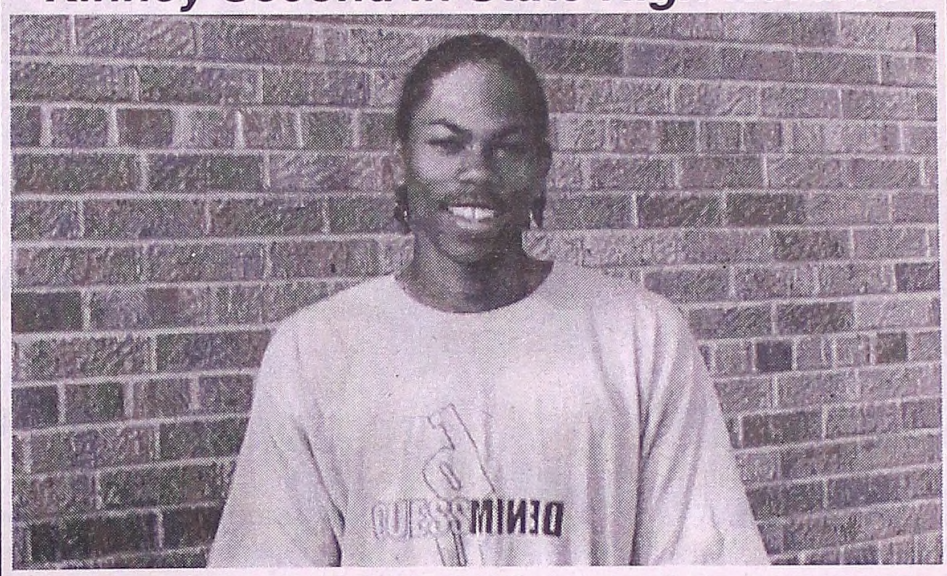
August 22nd – August 28th

Kinney Second in State High Hurdles



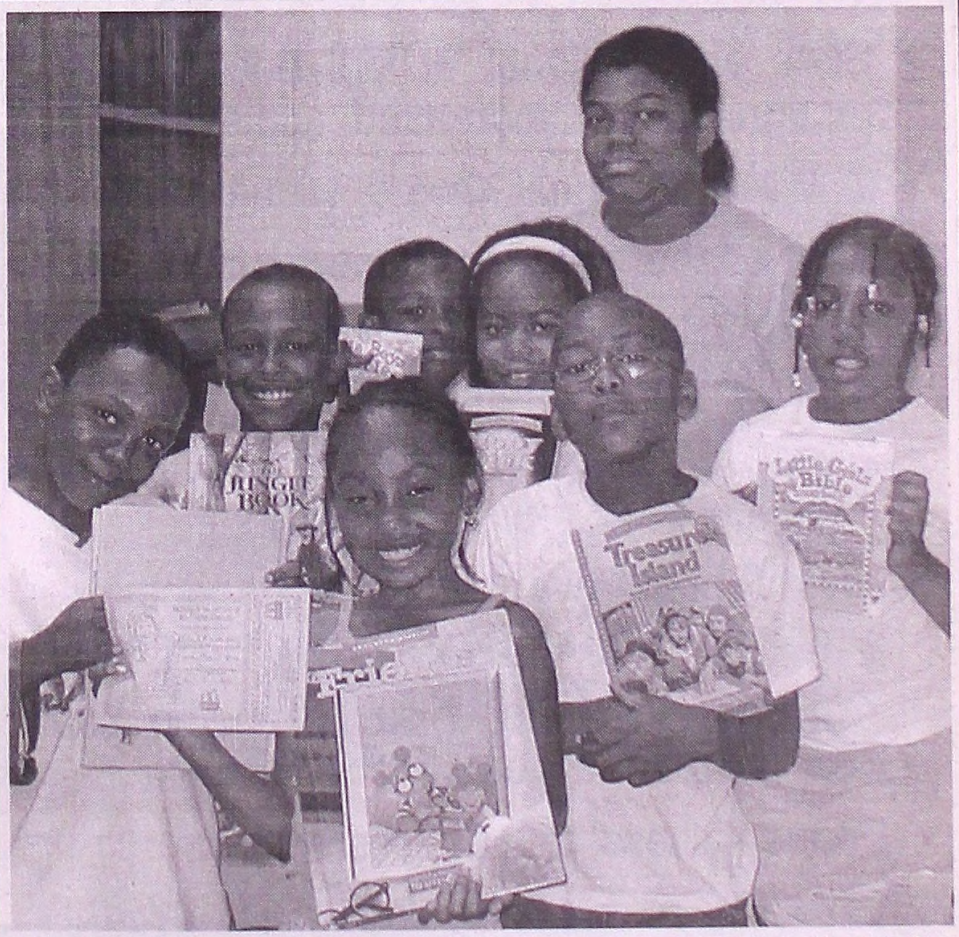
Romulus High School senior Daniel Kinney placed second in the 110-meter high hurdles at the State Class "A" Championships held in Grand Rapids last spring. Kinney is expected to be an important offensive threat as a wide receiver for the Eagles football team this fall. ***(For district athletic schedules, see pages 10, 12, and 14.)***

Students Go Back 2 Basics

About 50 youths from Romulus, River Rouge, Inkster, Oak Park, and Detroit were busy with work and play this summer thanks to the PEN Enrichment Center's Back 2 Basics Summer Camp, held at the Pentecostal Missionary Baptist Church of Romulus from June 21 through August 12. Participants ranged in age from 4 to 15.

The campers' daily activities included exercise, journal writing, reading and math lessons, character-building sessions, arts & crafts, and outside play activities, as well as workshops on making pillows, sewing buttons, changing a tire, and checking the oil in a car.

"This type of summer camp was needed to keep the children of our communities mentally and physically active throughout the summer," said Reverend Arthur C. Willis, Sr., pastor of the church. ❑



Camp participants who completed their reading assignments for the summer received a McDonald's Reading Award and a book of their choosing to take home with them. A grant from the Wal*Mart "Words Are Our Wheels" literacy program helped purchase the books.

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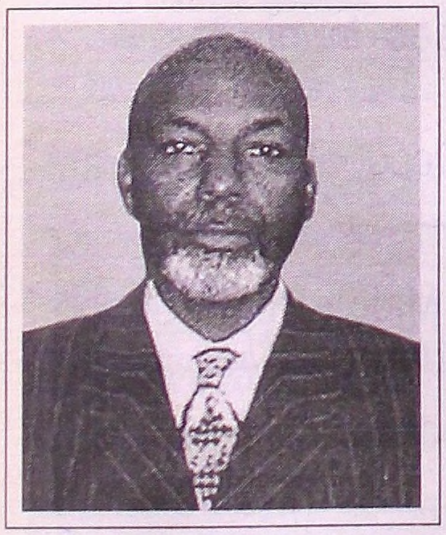

SERVICE TIMES
Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 am
Sunday Youth Church: 11:00 am
Sunday School: 9:30 am
Sunday New Members Class: 9:45 am
Wednesday Prayer Meeting/Bible Study: 6:00 pm

MONTHLY MEETINGS
Singles Ministry – 2nd Thursday
Marriage Ministry – 3rd Thursday: 7:00 pm
Ladies Ministry – 1st Friday: 7:00 pm
Youth Ministry – 2nd Saturday: 2:00 pm

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- 2 Milken National Award winners
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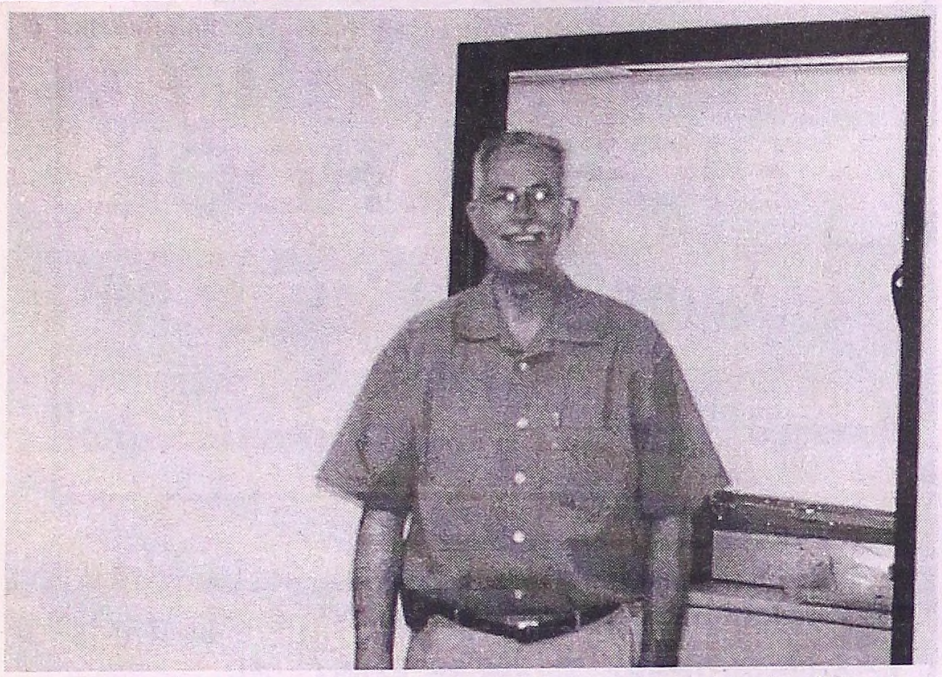
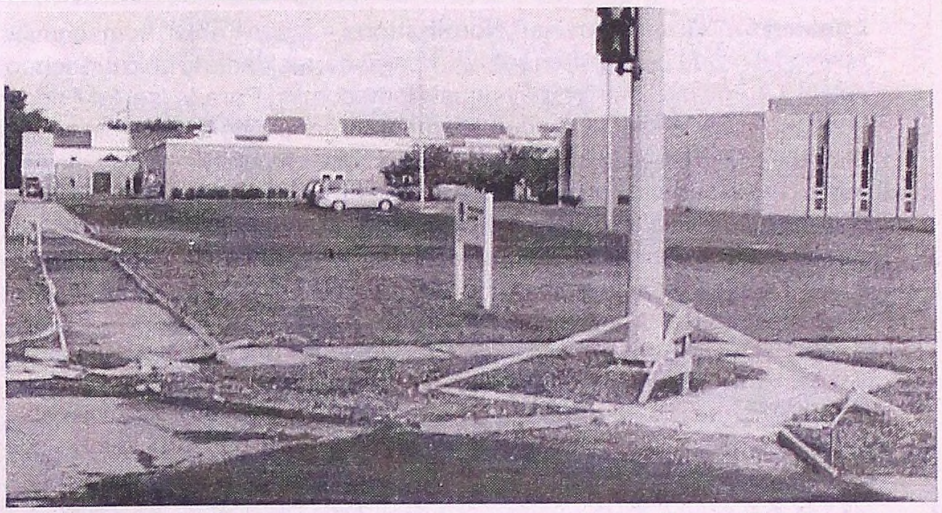
- Presidential Award-winning Service-learning Program/leadership classes
- 7 WDIV finalists for "Teacher of the Year" over the past 2 years
- Phone access to all classrooms
- Boys & Girls Club offers child care for age 6 and over until 8:30 p.m. for just $30 per year
- Two $50,000 State of Michigan Golden Apple Award-winning schools
- State-of-the-art in-filled football/soccer/ lacrosse field, triple gym, and new football stadium, track, and ball fields
- Newly refurbished 700-seat deluxe auditorium
- Parent Compact – resulted in 1,500 parents volunteering over 9,500 hours
- Internet access throughout district
- State-ranked athletic programs
- State-acclaimed, 500-student band program
- Dance studio – musicals – drama – choir
- Foreign-language classes in grades 7 through 12
- Award-winning Health Occupations program
- Successful robotics team
- First-place winners in Middle/High School Science and Social Studies Olympiads
- Science fairs at all schools

Romulus Community Schools Administrative Offices (36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174)

Summer Projects Prepare Facilities for New School Year



Bill Routhier, director of business and operations for the Romulus Community Schools, showed off one of two new office/room combinations at Halecreek Elementary School that have been remodeled for the district's Special Services Department.



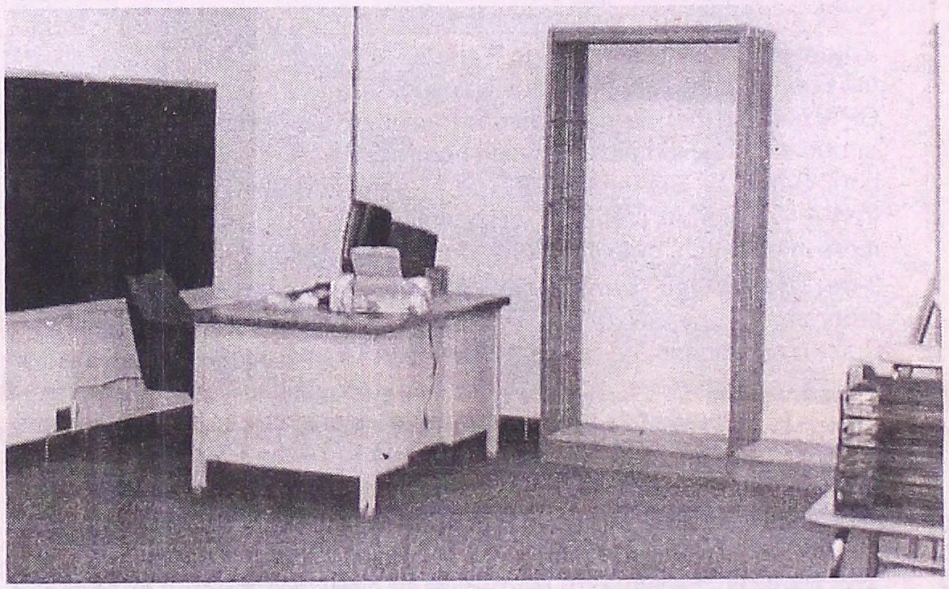
Romulus High School's southeast entrance from Wayne Road received new paving and sidewalk work. The new sidewalk will aid students who walk to school from the Wyndcliffe subdivision.

Bill Routhier, director of business and operations for Romulus Community Schools, announced the completion of several summer construction projects that prepared the district for the new school year. Improvements were made at Mt. Pleasant Center, Halecreek Elementary, and Romulus High School.

At Mt. Pleasant, the Special Services Department's relocation to Halecreek opened up space that has been remodeled to create three new classrooms. The Department's new home at Halecreek – a pair of rooms, each with a connecting office (one for director Jeffery Royal; another for nurse Carol Wolan) – has also been renovated.

Principal Dan Hurst is pleased with the addition of a new bank office at Romulus High School. The office, located in the school store, will provide students with banking services through a local credit union. The office will also give students a chance to gain work experience in/knowledge about the financial services field and explore possible career choices in this area.

The High School also benefited from driveway repaving and sidewalk installation at the school's southeast entrance. The improvements, Routhier explained, will provide a safer walking environment for students walking to school from the subdivision across the street.



The Mt. Pleasant Center remodeled three former Special Services offices to create new classrooms.

Principal Dan Hurst showed off the new bank office at Romulus High School. The office, located in the school store, will provide financial services training for vocational students.

Mr. Bill's
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Community Calendar

- **Looking for "Grand Marshal" Nominations** – Jason Kahler, homecoming advisor at Romulus High School, is inviting local residents to help the school select a grand marshal for the annual Homecoming Parade, set for Friday, October 1. To be eligible for consideration, a candidate must be someone who has represented the school district and/or community in a positive way. Nominations should be submitted to Kahler (c/o Romulus High School, 9650 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174) by August 31. Nominations should include the nominee's name, a brief summary of his/her qualifications, and the name/phone number of the person making the nomination.
- **"Parade of Lights" Entries Sought** – The Romulus Rotary Club is currently seeking entries for the sixth annual Parade of Lights, which will kick off the Romulus Pumpkin Festival on Friday, September 17, at 8 p.m. *All entries must be illuminated in keeping with the parade's theme.* Prizes will be awarded in three categories: people/animal powered, motorized, and commercial. This year, the parade will begin at Romulus City Hall (11111 South Wayne Road), travel north to Goddard, then continue west along Goddard to Five Points. Parade participants are urged to park at Progressive Hall, then use the shuttle service to assemble at City Hall to reduce congestion in the parade staging area. Refreshments will be served at Progressive Hall immediately following the parade. For more information, or for an application, visit www.romulusrotary.org or call 734-941-3635.
- **Volunteers Needed for Bingo Benefit** – Councilman Bill Wadsworth and the Friends of the New Romulus Animal Shelter will host bingo in the former DPW building (between the railroad tracks and the Romulus Senior Center) throughout the Romulus Pumpkin Festival: Friday, September 17, 1 to 11 p.m.; Saturday, September 18, 1 to 11 p.m.; and Sunday, September 19, from 1 to 8 p.m. All proceeds will benefit the Romulus Animal Shelter. For more information, or to volunteer, contact Wadsworth at 734-941-0616.
- **3-on-3 Basketball Tournament** – As part of their Keeping Youth Off Drugs program, "The MEN of the PEN" (from PEN Enrichment Community Center) are sponsoring a 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament for ages 6 to 18 on Saturday, September 18, on Goddard near Romaine. Play will begin at 10 a.m., with competitions in the following divisions: Group A – ages 6 to 8; Group B – ages 9 to 11; Group C – ages 12 to 14; and Group D – ages 15 to 18. To register, contact Reverend Arthur C. Willis or Patrice Johnson at the Pentecostal Missionary Baptist Church, located at 35625 Vinewood in Romulus. Call 734-728-1390 or e-mail thepen@sbcglobal.net.
- **"Get Healthy" Family Fun Run** – Get an early, healthy start on Pumpkin Festival activities by taking part in the "Get Healthy" Family Fun Run, set for Saturday, September 18, at the Romulus Middle School track. Registration (8 to 8:30 a.m.) and a group stretch (8:15 to 8:30 a.m.) will be followed by the run/walk-at-your-own-pace event, set for 8:30 to 10 a.m. An entry fee of $5 per participant/$15 per family (cash only) includes a T-shirt and goody bag with pedometer. All proceeds will support the Healthy Living Advisory Committee and PEN Enrichment Community Center, organizations that are working to address childhood obesity. For more information, call the Romulus Recreation Department: 734-942-6852.
- **Used Book Sale** – The Friends of the Romulus Public Library will host their annual Pumpkin Festival Used-book Sale on Saturday, September 18, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday, September 19, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Hard covers will be $1 each; paperbacks, $.50; and children's books, $.25. Biggest bargains will be available from 3 to 6 p.m. Sunday, when shoppers can purchase a bagful of books for just $2. Donations of books in good condition are welcome. Call 734-942-7589 for more information.
- **RHS Class of 1954 Holds 50th Reunion** – Romulus High School's Class of '54 will host its 50th reunion on Friday, September 17, and Saturday, September 18. Class members who have not yet received an invitation are urged to call Gloria (Koester) Chandler at 734-941-2678.
- **Nursery Program Has Openings** – Huron Countryside Co-op Nursery – a nonprofit organization located in St. Paul's Church (corner of Craig and Ellis in New Boston) – is accepting enrollment for its three-/four-year-old classes for the 2004–2005 school year. Call Lynn Emery at 734-782-0876.

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174–0038; FAX it to us at 734-992-2052; or call 734-941-1907

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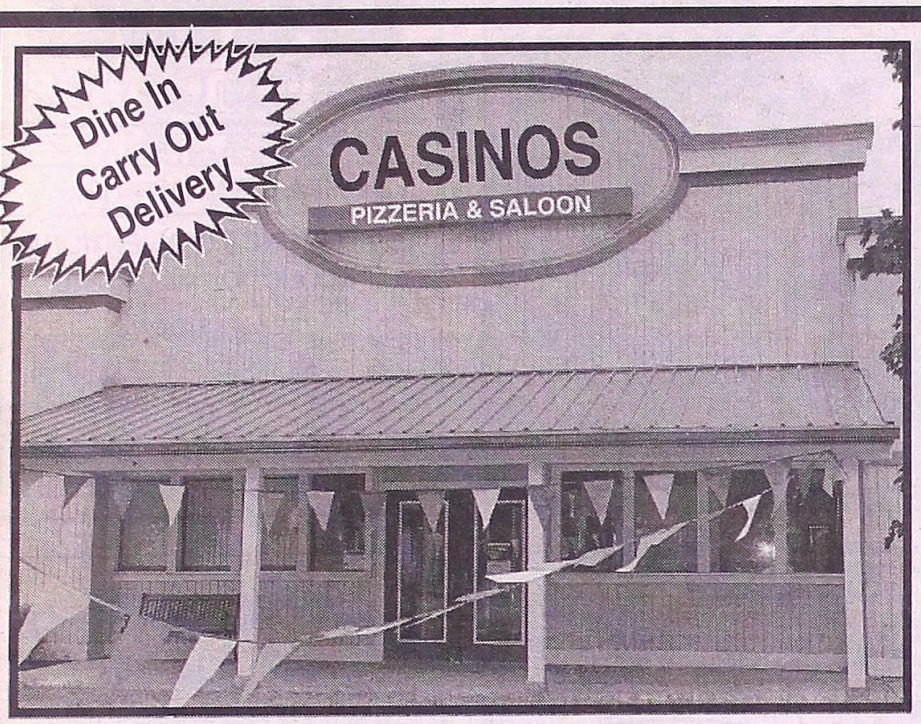
School of Choice enrollment is from August 16th to September 21st.
First-semester classes begin September 1st.

What makes Community High unique?

- Small class sizes that meet in two-hour blocks.
- An emphasis is placed on applied academics, career connections, and technical/vocational training.
- Trained counselors conduct individual and group personal development sessions.
- Job, college, and military opportunities are explored with students.
- Teaching and support staff are focused on providing academic success and healthy personal growth to each student at Community High School.
- Computer technology is integrated into each academic area.
- Students have the ability to earn credits for each nine-week quarter they complete with a 70% competency in each class.
- Earn college credit while still in high school.

For more information, or to make an appointment to register for classes, please call (734) 532-1954



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Lunch Program Details Set

Income Limit for Free Lunches

Note: Income figures represent the total income for ALL family members

Family Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice Monthly	Every 2 Weeks	Weekly
1	$12,103	$1,009	$ 505	$ 466	$233
2	16,237	1,354	677	625	313
3	20,371	1,698	849	784	392
4	24,505	2,043	1,022	943	472
5	28,639	2,387	1,194	1,102	551
6	32,773	2,732	1,366	1,261	631
7	36,907	3,076	1,538	1,420	710
8	41,041	3,421	1,711	1,579	790
*	4,134	345	173	159	80

**For each additional household member, add this amount*

The Romulus Community Schools' Food Services Department has announced the details of the district's lunch program for the 2004–2005 school year.

"We're pleased that we were able to keep the price as low as possible, despite the rising cost of food products," said Bill Routhier, director of business and operations for the district. "The recent low-carb diet craze has caused a significant increase in the price of high-protein foods such as chicken and beef."

The cost for school lunches will be:

- elementary: $1.75; and
- middle school/high school: $2.00.

Parents may also purchase pre-paid, 10-lunch ticket packages for $17.50 (elementary) and $20 (secondary) each. Tickets may be redeemed at any time during the school year. The price for milk has not yet been determined; it will be announced on the first day of school.

The Food Services Department also encourages parents to check the income guideline charts that accompany this article to determine whether their children are eligible for free or reduced-fee ($.40) lunches. Interested parents should request a form from their child's school; the school will notify them of their eligibility within 10 days of the receipt of their application.

Income Limit for Reduced-fee Lunches

Note: Income figures represent the total income for ALL family members

Family Size	Annual	Monthly	Twice Monthly	Every 2 Weeks	Weekly
1	$17,224	$1,436	$ 718	$ 663	$ 332
2	23,107	1,926	963	889	445
3	28,990	2,416	1,208	1,115	558
4	34,873	2,907	1,454	1,342	671
5	40,756	3,397	1,699	1,568	784
6	46,639	3,887	1,944	1,794	897
7	52,522	4,377	2,189	2,021	1,011
8	58,405	4,868	2,434	2,247	1,124
*	5,883	491	246	227	114

**For each additional household member, add this amount*

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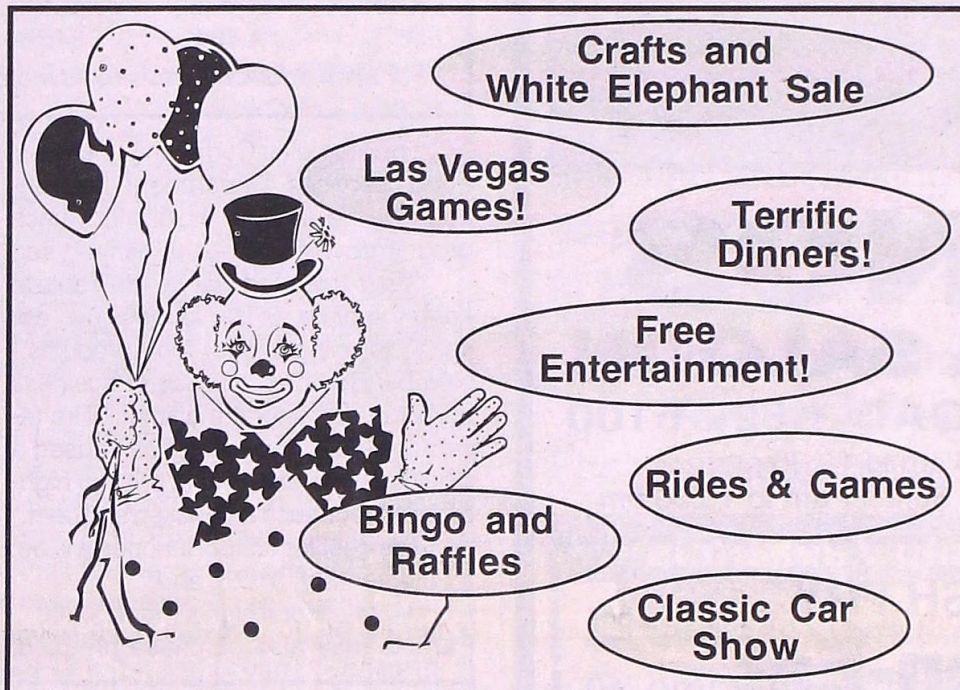

Crafts and White Elephant Sale
Las Vegas Games!
Terrific Dinners!
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Bingo and Raffles
Classic Car Show

54th Annual St. Aloysius

FESTIVAL

Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, August 27, 28, & 29

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FESTIVAL

Friday, August 27th thru Sunday, August 29th

POLKA MASS – SUNDAY AT 11:00 A.M.

For Additional Information, Call 734-941-5056

– FESTIVAL HOURS –

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
6 pm to Midnite	1 pm to Midnite	12 Noon to 7 pm

Amusement Rides for the Entire Family

Bingo!

Music!

Las Vegas Games!

Hamburger Villa

White Elephant Sale

Kids Game Tent

Beer Tent

Dunk Tank

TERRIFIC Dinners!

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
SPAGHETTI DINNER	STEAK FRY	CHICKEN DINNER
5 to 8 pm	3 to 7 pm	Noon to 5 pm

SATURDAY: CAR SHOW

SEE YOU THERE! FREE Entertainment! FUN! FUN! FUN!

ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

THE OTHER GUYS	Friday – 7 pm to 11 pm
DUANE MALINOWSKI	Saturday – 2 pm to 6 pm
CHANNEL 6	Saturday – 7 pm to 11 pm
MISTY BLUES	Sunday – 11 am to 7 pm

A RAFFLE FOR EVERYONE!
$1.00 Ticket or 6/$5.00
3 Prizes: $5,000 – $1,000 – $500

HOURLY 50/50 TICKET SALES
$1.00 Ticket

DIRECTIONS

Take I-94 to Wayne Road Exit. Go South on Wayne Road to Goddard. Turn right on Goddard and follow it through town to Neville. Turn right to the Church Grounds.
(11280 Ozga Road, Romulus)

2004 License # M31173
All Proceeds to Benefit

Everyone Welcome at St. Aloysius Fest

Alas, the end of summer is near, but Romulus-area residents can finish it off with a bang by attending the 54th annual St. Aloysius Festival.

Everyone is invited to take part in this "local institution," which will be held at St. Aloysius Catholic Church on Friday, August 27, from 6 p.m. to midnight; Saturday, August 28, from 1 p.m. to midnight; and Sunday, August 29, from 12 to 7 p.m. (See the advertisement at left for directions to the festival site.)

Highlights include:

Las Vegas Games

For many festival-goers, one of the biggest attractions is the Las Vegas tent, where adults (age 18 and older) can try their luck at the big-six wheel and/or the blackjack tables. Betting varies from a minimum of $1 to a maximum of $5, with a maximum winnings per person per day of $500. This year, the tent will be open throughout the festival.

Bingo!

For diehard bingo fans, a festival just isn't a festival without a chance to indulge in their favorite pastime – and, luckily for them, the St. Aloysius Festival will again feature play throughout the entire weekend. Cards for the 50/50 games (half the income collected from each game is used for prize money) are two for a quarter per game.

Raffles

Of course, the easiest way to try your luck is to invest in raffle tickets. Ticket-buyers can choose between the 50/50 Hourly Raffle (tickets – $1 each or 6 for $5; cash prizes equal half the money garnered from each hour's sales) or the Grand Raffle (tickets – $1 each or 6 for $5; three large prizes – $5,000, $1,000, and $500).

Better yet, since the proceeds from all raffles benefit the St. Aloysius General Fund, why not buy plenty of each?

Carnival Rides

What's a festival without rides? Fortunately, the St. Aloysius Festival will offer enough of them to satisfy your kids' biggest carnival cravings. And be sure to try out the rock-climbing wall, too.

Games/Arcade

Because the St. Aloysius Festival is meant to be a special event enjoyed by the entire community, those who put together the "games and arcade" section of the festival try their best to offer a mixture of attractions for wide appeal. Both the young and the young-at-heart will enjoy "checking out" this year's old favorites and new challenges.

Entertainment

Music will again be the backbone of the free entertainment at the festival. Come out to listen and/or dance to the music of:

- WB Jammin' (Friday, 7 to 11 p.m.),
- Duane Malinowski (Saturday, 2 to 6 p.m.),
- Channel 6 (Saturday, 7 to 11 p.m.), and
- Misty Blues (Sunday, 11 a.m. Polka Mass and 12 to 6 p.m.).

Other attractions will include a Classic Car Show (Saturday, 1 to 6 p.m.).

Dunk Tank

This year's dunk tank, sponsored by the Romulus Fire Department, will feature a number of area dignitaries as well as local Boy Scouts. Be sure to stop by and test your aim.

Crafts/White Elephant Sale

Numerous eight-foot tables will be covered with everything from Christmas gifts to baked goods. It's a great way to get a jump on your holiday shopping!

Table space is still available. Call the rectory (734-941-5056) for info.

Food ...

Of course, there will be plenty of delicious food! Visit the Dining Room on Friday between 5 and 8 p.m. for a Spaghetti Dinner and on Saturday from 3 to 7 p.m. for a Steak Fry Feast, then come back on Sunday between noon and 5 p.m. for an old-fashioned Chicken Dinner with all the trimmings.

Tickets for the Spaghetti Dinner are $6 for adults/$3 for children; Steak Fry tickets are $8 each; and Chicken Dinner tickets are $8 for adults/$4 for children.

For more "traditional" carnival fare, stop by Hamburger Villa for hamburgers, hot dogs, kielbasa, pizza, chips, coffee, pop, and other refreshments.

... and Drink

This year's Spirit Tent will serve chips, pretzels, pop, and nonalcoholic "beer" in addition to wine, wine coolers, and beer by the pitcher and the cup.

Of course, you must be at least 21 years old to purchase alcohol.

Don't Forget To Say "Thanks"

The repeated success of the St. Aloysius Festival is the result of a lot of hard work performed by many dedicated people. So, while you're enjoying yourself, take some time to thank the *many* volunteers who make the fun happen, especially Father Festus Ejimadu, festival chairperson Nancy K. Farmer, co-chairperson Cathy Freitag, and the various activities chairpersons:

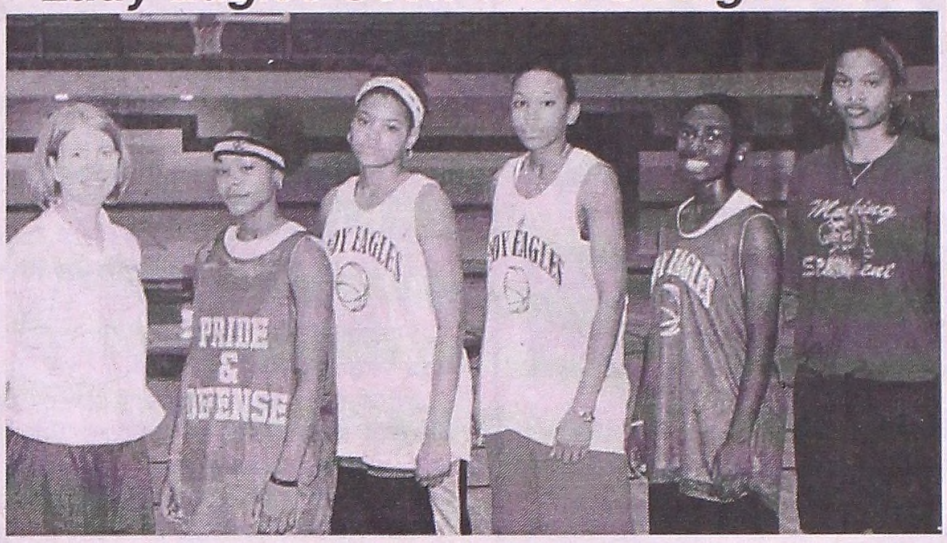
- Theresa McLachlan (Finance);
- Madeline Arkuski (Advertising);
- Dunk Tank (City of Romulus Fire Department);
- Dave Coomer (Las Vegas Games);
- Frank Orr (Hourly 50/50 Raffle);
- Joe Ozog (Bingo!);
- Rose Jasso (Games/Arcade);
- George Mennie (Car Show);
- Retta and Joe Matt (Crafts);
- Georgeann and Marge Taylor (White Elephant);
- Colleen Ottenbreit (Spaghetti Dinner);
- Randy and Joanne Prater (Steak Fry);
- Denise Kovacs, Candy Lewkowicz, and Karen Wilhide (Dining Room);
- Steve Kertesz (Hamburger Villa); and
- Tim and Cindy Rhoton, and Darryl and Sharon Zilka (Spirit Tent). ❑

RHS Girls' Basketball

Varsity/Junior Varsity

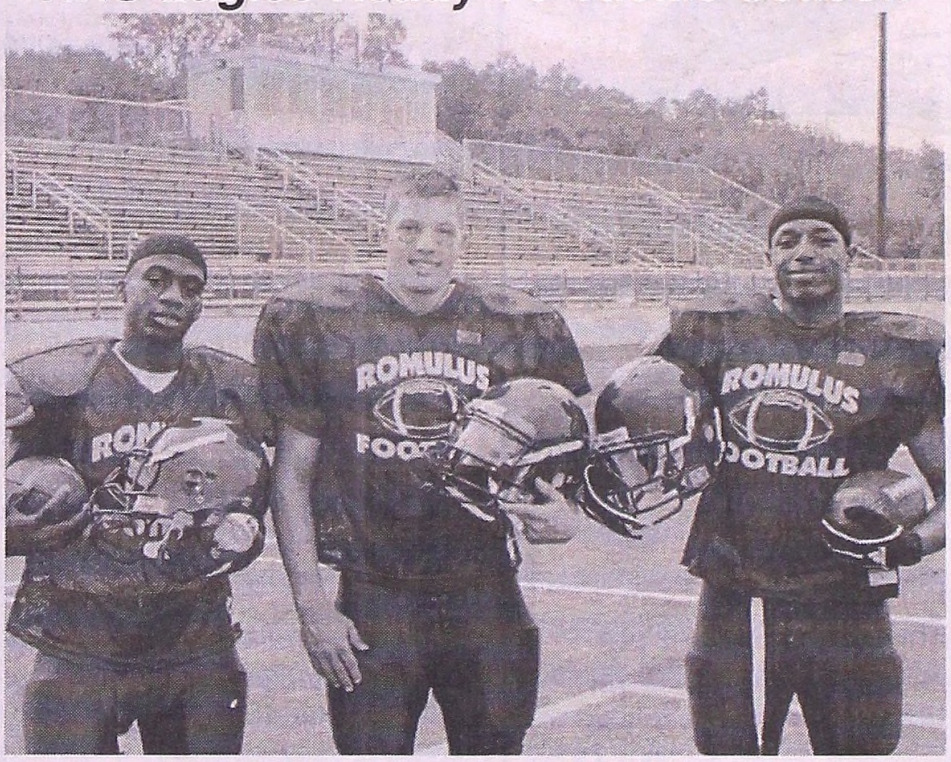
- St. Martin DePorres (Detroit) at Romulus (Thurs., Aug. 26, 5:30 p.m.)
- Wyandotte at Romulus (Tues., Aug. 31, 5:30 p.m.)
- Robichaud (Dearborn Heights) at Romulus (Thurs., Sept. 2, 5:30 p.m.)
- Belleville at Romulus (Tues., Sept. 7, 5:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Southgate (Thurs., Sept. 9, 5:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Wayne (Tues., Sept. 14, 5:30 p.m.)
- Monroe at Romulus (Thurs., Sept. 15, 5:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Truman (Taylor) – Mega (Thurs., Sept. 23, 5:30 p.m.)
- Woodhaven at Romulus – Mega (Thurs., Sept. 30, 5:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Trenton – Mega (Tues., Oct. 5, 5:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Edsel Ford (Dearborn) – Mega (Thurs., Oct. 7, 5:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Ann Arbor Huron (Tues., Oct. 12, 5:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Garden City – Mega (Thurs., Oct. 14, 5:30 p.m.)
- Dearborn at Romulus – Mega (Tues., Oct. 19, 5:30 p.m.)
- Truman (Taylor) at Romulus – Mega (Thurs., Oct. 21, 5:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Woodhaven – Mega (Tues., Oct. 26, 5:30 p.m.)
- Trenton at Romulus – Mega (Thurs., Oct. 28, 5:30 p.m.)
- Edsel Ford (Dearborn) at Romulus – Mega (Tues., Nov. 2, 5:30 p.m.)
- Garden City at Romulus – Mega (Tues., Nov. 9, 5:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Dearborn – Mega (Thurs., Nov. 11, 5:30 p.m.)

Lady Eagles Seek Third Straight Title



Head coach Rhonda McAllister-Henry (left) and assistant coach Candice Finley (right) have been working hard with RHS Lady Eagles basketball players like (from left) Paris Hawkins, Janiece Armstrong, Ashley Sibby, and Candace Lawrence as they prepare to pursue their third straight Mega White League title.

RHS Eagles Ready To Tackle Season



Ready to lead the RHS football team to a successful fall season are (from left) Terrance McKay (receiver/defensive back), Philip Roscoe (fullback/linebacker), and James Kendrick (running back/strong safety).

RHS Boys' Football

Varsity

- River Rouge at Romulus (Fri., Aug. 27, 7 p.m.)
- Allen Park at Romulus – Mega (Fri., Sept. 3, 7 p.m.)
- Romulus at Southgate – Mega (Fri., Sept. 10, 7 p.m.)
- Garden City at Romulus – Mega (Fri., Sept. 17, 7 p.m.)
- Romulus at Crestwood (Dearborn Heights) – Mega (Fri., Sept. 24, 7 p.m.)
- HOMECOMING Edsel Ford (Dearborn) at Romulus – Mega (Fri., Oct. 1, 7 p.m.)
- Lincoln Park at Romulus – Mega (Fri., Oct. 8, 7 p.m.)
- Romulus at Truman (Taylor) – Mega (Fri., Oct. 15, 7 p.m.)
- Belleville at Romulus (Fri., Oct. 22, 7 p.m.)

Junior Varsity

- Romulus at River Rouge (THurs., Aug. 26, 7 p.m.)
- Romulus at Allen Park – Mega (Thurs., Sept. 2, 7 p.m.)
- Southgate at Romulus – Mega (Thurs., Sept. 9, 7 p.m.)
- Romulus at Garden City – Mega (Thurs., Sept. 16, 7 p.m.)
- Crestwood (Dearborn Heights) at Romulus – Mega (Thurs., Sept. 23, 7 p.m.)
- Romulus at Edsel Ford (Dearborn) – Mega (Thurs., Sept. 30, 6:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Lincoln Park – Mega (Thurs., Oct. 7, 6:30 p.m.)
- Truman (Taylor) at Romulus – Mega (Thurs., Oct. 14, 7 p.m.)
- Romulus at Belleville (Thurs., Oct. 21, TBA)

Schedules subject to change

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36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174

REGULAR MEETING, AUGUST 9, 2004

The Regular Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Monday, August 9, 2004, was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Cheryle Buckley.

Roll call showed members Buckley, Celeste Roscoe, Kenneth Mientkiewicz, Betty Lenossi, Niema White, and Thomas Kuderik present. Member April Frayer was excused. Administrators Joel R. Carr, Superintendent; William Routhier, Director of Business and Operations; Ed Clark, Director of Human Resources; and Tom Dolan, Director of Curriculum, were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Buckley.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

8/04/01 Moved by White supported by Lenossi to approve the Agenda as amended. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

8/04/2 Moved by Mientkiewicz supported by Roscoe that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of July 26, 2004, as presented. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Personnel Actions

Mr. Ed Clark, Director of Human Resources, offered the following personnel actions for Board approval:

FYI – EMPLOYMENT: Cynthia Bennett, Payroll/Retirement Coordinator, Effective July 19, 2004.

FYI – RESIGNATIONS: Amber Ackerman, Special Education Teacher, Romulus Middle School/High School, Effective July 26, 2004 (Last Day Worked – June 11, 2004); Deborah Roberts, Child Care Giver/Latchkey, Burton Center, Effective August 2, 2004 (Last Day Worked – July 21, 2004); and Jacklyn Klotz, Special Education Teacher, Romulus Middle School, Effective July 26, 2004 (Last Day Worked – June 11, 2004).

FYI – RETIREMENT: Shirley A. Lamberson, Transportation Supervisor, Board of Education, Effective September 30, 2004.

Bills for Payment

8/04/3 Moved by Lenossi supported by Mientkiewicz to approve the Bills for Payment as presented by Mr. William Routhier, Director of Business and Operations. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

SBC Cable

8/04/4 Moved by Lenossi supported by White that the Board of Education authorize Mr. William Routhier, Director of Business and Operations, to execute an agreement with SBC to relocate Romulus Elementary's phone cable. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Communications and Expressions from the Public

There were no communications from the public.

Items of Interest from the Superintendent

Mr. Joel R. Carr, Superintendent, shared the following Items of Interest with members of the Board of Education: 1) Accreditation Certificate – Community Middle and High School, and 2) Michigan School Report Cards.

QUESTIONS AND/OR CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS:

Mrs. Niema White asked for confirmation of the first day of school, and was informed by Mr. Joel R. Carr, Superintendent, that the first day of school for students will be September 1, 2004. He added that information was posted on cable.

Mrs. Betty Lenossi stated that it would be nice to have a 3- or 5-year calendar.

President Cheryle Buckley appointed members Niema White and Thomas Kuderik to the Technology Committee.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

8/04/5 Moved by White supported by Lenossi to convene into Executive Session for the purpose of negotiations. Roll call vote: Ayes: 6 (Kuderik, Lenossi, White, Mientkiewicz, Buckley, and Roscoe). Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Board convened into Executive Session at 6:43 p.m.

8/04/6 Moved by White supported by Mientkiewicz to reconvene into Regular Session. Roll call vote: Ayes: 6 (Kuderik, Lenossi, White, Mientkiewicz, Buckley, and Roscoe). Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Board convened into Regular Session at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

8/04/7 Moved by Mientkiewicz supported by Kuderik to adjourn. Ayes: 6. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Celeste Roscoe, Secretary
Romulus Board of Education

Recreation News

Our thanks to Herbert Buckley, Director, City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, and Kristin Irwin, Recreation Coordinator, for supplying information for the "Recreation News" column.

Unless otherwise noted, registration for the following programs should be made at the Romulus Recreation Center (36515 Bibbins) during its regular hours (weekdays, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.). For more information, stop in at the Center or call 734-942-6852.

Dance Classes

The Romulus Recreation Department's dance program for ages 3 to adult (as of September 1, 2004) will begin the week of September 13–16 and continue through the week of January 17–20. Classes will be held according to the following schedule:

Mondays (at Romulus High School)
- ballet (ages 5 to 6): 5 to 5:30 p.m.
- ballet (ages 7 to 9): 5:30 to 6:15 p.m.
- ballet (ages 10 to 15): 6:15 to 7 p.m.
- dance team: 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Tuesdays (at Romulus High School)
- dance intro (ages 3 to 4): 5 to 5:30 p.m.
- dance intro (ages 3 to 4): 5:30 to 6 p.m.
- African-Haitian (ages 7 to 9): 6 to 6:45 p.m.
- African-Haitian (ages 10 to 18): 6:45 to 7:30 p.m.
- African-Haitian (adult): 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Wednesdays (at the Rec Center)
- tap (ages 5 to 6): 5 to 5:30 p.m.
- tap (ages 7 to 9): 5:30 to 6:15 p.m.
- tap (ages 10 to 15): 6:15 to 7 p.m.
- dance team: 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Thursdays (at Romulus High School)
- dance intro (ages 3 to 4): 5 to 5:30 p.m.
- hip-hop/jazz (ages 5 to 6): 5:30 to 6 p.m.
- ballet (ages 5 to 6): 6 to 6:30 p.m.
- hip-hop/jazz (ages 7 to 9): 6:30 to 7:15 p.m.
- hip-hop/jazz (ages 10 to 15): 7:15 to 8 p.m.

Cost per 16-week session is $70 for 30-minute classes, $100 for 45-minute classes, and $100 for adult classes. Register by Friday, September 10.

Clogging

The Recreation Department's clogging class – open to ages 7 through adult – will meet at Cory Elementary each Monday from September 13 through November 29 according to the following schedule:
- advanced: 6 to 7 p.m.
- intermediate: 7 to 8 p.m.
- beginners: 8 to 9 p.m.

Cost is $25 per person. Register by Friday, September 10.

Youth Gymnastics

The fall session of the Tumblebunnies gymnastics program for boys and girls ages 3 and up will be held at the Recreation Center each Monday from September 20 to November 1 according to the following schedule:
- ages 3 to 4: 6 to 6:45 p.m.
- ages 5 to 7: 6:45 to 7:30 p.m.
- ages 8 and up: 7:30 to 8:15 p.m.

Cost is $60 per session. Register by Friday, September 17.

After-school Soccer

Students in grades 3 through 6 are invited to sign up for the Recreation Department's after-school soccer program, which will be held at all 6 elementary schools (Barth, Cory, Halecreek, Merriman, Romulus, and Wick) until 5 p.m. each Tuesday and Thursday from September 14 through November 4.

A cost of $30 per child includes a T-shirt; youngsters who have a shirt from last year pay only $25. *No transportation will be provided.* Register by Thursday, September 9.

Safety/Self-defense

Ages 3 through adult will gain confidence, self-discipline, and coordination while learning about fire safety, stranger danger, and anti-bullying techniques through participation in a safety awareness/self-defense class, which will be held at the Recreation Center from 5:30 to 6 p.m. each Tuesday from September 14 through October 19.

Cost per session is $25 for one person, $45 for two immediate family members, or $65 for three immediate family members. (If the class is taken in conjunction with the Tang Soo Do class below, the cost is $10 per participant.) Register by Monday, September 13.

Tang Soo Do

Tang Soo Do – an original form of Tae Kwon Do – is a traditional (as opposed to Olympics-style) martial arts discipline. Participants (ages 3 through adult) will learn self-defense techniques, grappling techniques, and hand-to-hand combat. The class will meet at the Recreation Center from 6 to 7 p.m. each Tuesday from September 14 through October 19.

Cost per session is $30 for one person, $50 for two immediate family members, or $70 for three immediate family members. (If the class is taken

RHS Boys' X-Country

Varsity

- Romulus at Wyandotte Jamboree*
  (Tues., Sept., 14, TBA)
- Romulus at Jefferson Invitational (Sterling State Park)
  (Sat., Sept. 18, TBA)
- Romulus at Crestwood (Dearborn Heights) Jamboree*
  (Tues., Sept. 28, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Salem Invitational (Willow Metro Park)
  (Sat., Oct. 9, TBA)
- Romulus at Mega Division Meet (Ypsilanti)
  (Tues., Oct. 12, TBA)
- Romulus at Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard Invitational (Hudson Mills Park)
  (Sat., Oct. 16, 9:30 a.m.)
- Romulus at Monroe Jamboree*
  (Thurs., Oct. 21, TBA)
- Romulus at Redford Union Invitational (Cass Benton Park)
  (Fri., Oct. 29, TBA)

**Crestwood, Garden City, Lincoln Park, Southgate, Thurston, Trenton, Ypsilanti, and Wyandotte high schools*

Schedule subject to change

RHS Boys' Golf

Varsity

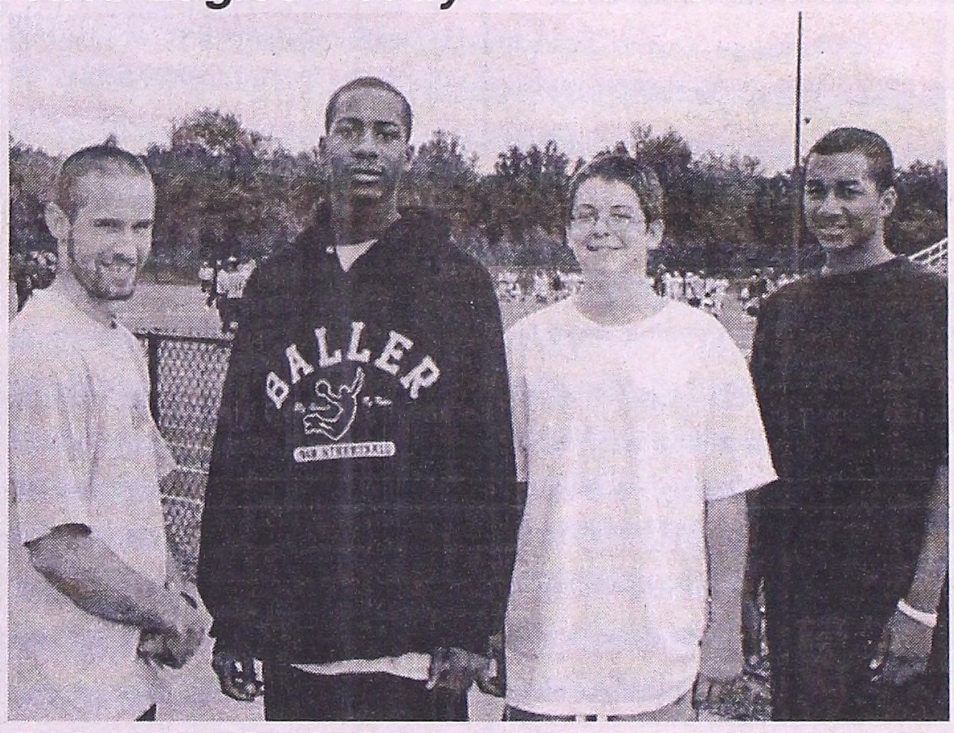
- Romulus at Wayne
  (Mon., Aug. 23; outcome unknown at press time)
- Melvindale at Romulus – Mega
  (Wed., Aug. 25; outcome unknown at press time)
- Romulus at Willow Run (Green Oaks) – Mega
  (Wed., Sept. 1, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Fordson (Dearborn Hills) – Mega
  (Wed., Sept. 8, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Scramble (Riverview Highlands)
  (Fri., Sept. 10, TBA)
- Romulus at Truman (Taylor Meadows) – Mega
  (Mon., Sept. 13, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Melvindale (Taylor Meadows) – Mega
  (Wed., Sept. 15, 3:30 p.m.)
- Willow Run at Romulus – Mega
  (Wed., Sept. 22, 3:30 p.m.)
- Fordson at Romulus – Mega
  (Mon., Sept. 27, 3:30 p.m.)
- Truman (Taylor) at Romulus – Mega
  (Wed., Sept. 29, 3:30 p.m.)

Schedule subject to change

RHS Tennis Team Making a Racket

Members of Romulus High School's girls' tennis team include (from left) Jennifer Hunter, Jazmine Bennett, Jennifer Dick, Jessica Dick, Ashley Wright, and Kathleen Forrest.

RHS Eagles Ready To Go the Distance



Head coach Ken Beesley (left) is working with his RHS cross-country team members – including (from left) Avery Stephenson, Matt Destrampe, and Dominique Buckley – as they make a run at a successful season.

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RHS Girls' Tennis

Varsity

- Robichaud (Dearborn Heights) at Romulus – Mega
  (Mon., Aug. 23; outcome unknown at press time)
- Romulus at Lincoln Park – Mega
  (Wed., Aug. 25; outcome unknown at press time)
- Jefferson (Monroe) at Romulus
  (Mon., Aug. 30, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Belleville – Mega
  (Wed., Sept. 1, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Ypsilanti – Mega
  (Wed., Sept. 8, 4 p.m.)
- Redford Union at Romulus – Mega
  (Fri., Sept. 10, 4 p.m.)
- Annapolis (Dearborn Heights) at Romulus – Mega
  (Mon., Sept. 13, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Robichaud (Dearborn Heights) – Mega
  (Wed., Sept. 15, 4 p.m.)
- Lincoln Park at Romulus – Mega
  (Fri., Sept. 17, 4 p.m.)
- Jefferson (Monroe) at Romulus
  (Mon., Sept. 20, 4 p.m.)
- Belleville at Romulus – Mega
  (Wed., Sept. 22, 4 p.m.)
- Ypsilanti at Romulus – Mega
  (Fri., Sept. 24, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Redford Union – Mega
  (Mon., Sept. 27, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Annapolis (Dearborn Heights) – Mega
  (Wed., Sept. 29, 4 p.m.)

Schedule subject to change

RMS Girls' Basketball

7th/8th Grade

- Romulus at Ypsilanti West
  (Mon., Sept. 20, 3:45 p.m.)
- Romulus at Willow Run
  (Wed., Sept. 22, 3:45 p.m.)
- Cantrick (Monroe) at Romulus
  (Mon., Sept. 27, 3:45 p.m.)
- Ypsilanti East at Romulus
  (Wed., Sept. 29, 3:45 p.m.)
- Romulus at Brake (Taylor)
  (Mon., Oct. 4, 3:45 p.m.)
- Ypsilanti West at Romulus
  (Wed., Oct. 6, 3:45 p.m.)
- Willow Run at Romulus
  (Mon., Oct. 11, 3:45 p.m.)
- Romulus at Cantrick (Monroe)
  (Wed., Oct. 13, 3:45 p.m.)
- Romulus at Ypsilanti East
  (Mon., Oct. 18, 3:45 p.m.)
- Brake (Taylor) at Romulus
  (Wed., Oct. 20, 3:45 p.m.)

Schedule subject to change

Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Linda Norman, senior citizens program coordinator for the City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column. (For more information about events at the Romulus Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins in the downtown area, please call 734-955-4120.)

Movie Day

The Romulus Senior Center will be showing the comedy *Miss Congeniality* – starring Sandra Bullock, Michael Caine, Benjamin Bratt, and Candice Bergen – at 1 p.m. on Monday, August 30. Light refreshments will be served.

Bowlers and Substitutes Needed

The Romulus Senior Center will kick off the fall bowling season at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 8, with an orientation meeting for the Monday Bowling League for seniors age 50 and over. Both regular bowlers and substitutes are needed. For more information, contact Mary at 734-721-3708.

Wanted: Crafters

The Romulus Senior Center is looking for senior crafters to take part in the Center's annual Pumpkin Festival Craft Show, set for September 17–19. Early registration is strongly encouraged, as these free spaces are available on a first-come/first-served basis until filled.

Senior-citizen Clubs

Local senior citizens looking to make new friends are invited to join one or both of the clubs that meet at the Romulus Senior Center on a regular basis.

Club #1, which gets together each Tuesday at 11 a.m., holds potlucks, "does lunch" at area restaurants, hosts parties, plays bingo and other games, and schedules seasonal outings.

The Romulus Senior Social Club, a relatively new group that's continuing to grow, meets at 2 p.m. on the second Friday of each month. Yearly dues of $5 help cover costs related to special trips, parties, and other events.

For more information about either group, call the Senior Center.

Regular Programs

Besides the many special activities offered at the Romulus Senior Center, a number of regularly scheduled free or low-cost programs are also open to local senior citizens.

They include:

- ceramics (Mondays, 12:30 p.m.),
- Club One (Tuesdays, 11 a.m.),
- bunco (Tuesdays, 1 p.m.),
- bingo (Wednesdays, 1 p.m.),
- "fun night" (Wednesdays, 5 p.m.),
- pinochle (Thursdays, 12:30 p.m.),
- "game day" (Thursdays, 1 to 3 p.m.), and
- quilting (Thursdays, 7 p.m.).

Chiropractic Clinics

Dr. Craig Everingham from Everingham Chiropractic will be at the Romulus Senior Center on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 1 p.m.

To make your appointment, please call 734-941-5620.

Haircuts

The Romulus Senior Center's next haircut date is set for Monday, September 20, beginning at 10 a.m. If you would like to take advantage of this affordable ($5) program, call the Center to make an appointment.

Note: Haircut clients are asked to wash their hair before coming to their appointments, as the Center does not have the necessary facilities.

Hot Lunches

Just a reminder that the Romulus Senior Center serves a hot lunch at 11:30 a.m. each weekday for only $1.75. Call at least 24 hours in advance to make your reservation.

TeleCare Program Available

The Romulus Senior Center's TeleCare program provides seniors with daily phone reassurance at no cost.

To learn more, call the Center's friendly staff.

Basham Encourages Seniors To Get Free Eye Exams

State Senator Ray Basham is encouraging local seniors suffering from diabetes to take full advantage of a program that provides free eye examinations to qualified patients. The Taylor Democratic said that early detection is often critical in the successful treatment of certain vision disorders.

"Senior citizens suffering from diabetes are at risk of developing a very serious vision disorder called diabetic retinopathy," said Basham. "Early detection and treatment of diabetic retinopathy can reduce the risk of blindness by as much as 95%."

The free eye examinations are being offered by EyeCare America's Diabetes EyeCare Program. This year-round program offers free exams and up to a year of treatment with no out-of-pocket expense to qualified patients.

The program is targeted toward seniors who have not seen an ophthalmologist in over three years. Seniors who have insurance through an HMO or the VA are not eligible.

For a referral, interested persons may call 800-272-3937. ❑

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Wedding Bells

Eugene and Sarah (Poletti) LaForet

Laurence and Kathy Poletti of Melvindale, Michigan, and Gary and Jeanette Puhl of Romulus, Michigan, are proud to announce the marriage of their daughter, Sarah Elizabeth Poletti, to Eugene Joseph LaForet, the son of Ken and Sue LaForet of Southgate, Michigan.

The couple – who had been engaged since Friday, February 14, 2003 – exchanged their wedding vows on Friday, July 16, 2004, at the Special Memories Chapel in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Standing up with Eugene was best man Ken LaForet (Southgate). Sarah was attended by maid of honor Donna Scarlett (Romulus).

Eugene and Sarah have a six-month-old daughter, Tia Ryanne LaForet.

Sarah and Eugene LaForet

Chris and Monique (Chadwick) Talley

Monique and Chris Talley

On Saturday, August 7, 2004, Monique Chadwick and Chris Talley were united in Holy matrimony.

Chris, a fourth-year student attending Eastern Michigan University on a football scholarship, proposed to Monique, records clerk for the City of Romulus Police Department, on June 29, 2004.

After a mere four weeks of planning, the couple got married at First Baptist Church in Romulus. The wedding party included maid of honor Tomekia Sommerville, best man Eric Talley II, flower girl Krystian Talley, and ring bearer Jason Johnson.

The couple plan to reside in Brownstown until Chris graduates from school in the spring.

Chris is the son of Eric and Rita Talley; Monique's parents are Kevin and Diane Chadwick (all of Romulus).

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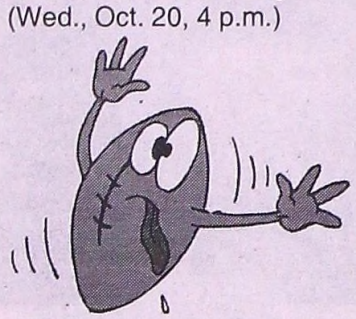
RMS Boys' Football

7th/8th Grade

- Romulus at Robichaud (Dearborn Heights) (Wed., Sept. 15, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Highland Park (Wed., Sept. 22, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Best (Dearborn Heights) (Wed., Sept. 29, 4 p.m.)
- Hilbert (Redford) at Romulus (Wed., Oct. 6, 4 p.m.)
- Willow Run at Romulus (Wed., Oct. 13, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at River Rouge (Wed., Oct. 20, 4 p.m.)



Schedule subject to change

RHS Boys' Soccer

Varsity

- Romulus at Detroit Western (Thurs., Aug. 26, 5 p.m.)
- Romulus at Thurston (Redford) – Mega (Mon., Aug. 30, 4 p.m.)
- Lincoln Park at Romulus – Mega (Wed., Sept. 1, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Airport (Carleton) (Fri., Sept. 10, 4:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Melvindale (Mon., Sept. 13, 4 p.m.)
- Truman (Taylor) at Romulus – Mega (Wed., Sept. 15, 4 p.m.)
- Jefferson (Monroe) at Romulus (Fri., Sept. 24, 4 p.m.)
- Carlson (Gibraltar) at Romulus – Mega (Mon., Sept. 27, 4 p.m.)
- Thurston (Redford) at Romulus – Mega (Wed., Sept. 29, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Lincoln Park – Mega (Mon., Oct. 4, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Truman (Taylor) – Mega (Wed., Oct. 6, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Jefferson (Monroe) (Mon., Oct. 11, 4:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Carlson (Gibraltar) – Mega (Wed., Oct. 13, 4 p.m.)
- Melvindale at Romulus (Fri., Oct. 15, 4 p.m.)

Schedule subject to change

Program Celebrates Lives of Lost Loved Ones

Participants in Crane Funeral Home's first annual Celebration of Life Balloon Launch gathered together to pay tribute to the memory of lost loved ones.

Sometimes, a rite of passage allows people to put personal tragedies into a more healthy perspective. Crane Funeral Home owner Bill Crane hopes that a program he hosted on June 13 helped a number of bereaved Romulus-area residents cope with their grief.

"For many, the past year has held a variety of difficult experiences and some very painful emotions," Crane explained. "Our Celebration of Life Balloon Launch – held just as the cold, dreary months of winter were giving way to the bright, warm days of summer – was a beautiful, symbolic tribute to the memory of lost loved ones."

The balloon launch is one of several programs that Crane conducts for the community, free of charge, throughout the year. Besides a second annual Memorial Candle-lighting Service that is planned for December, he continues to offer grief-support meetings that are held at the funeral home (36885 Goddard Road) on the second Sunday of each month from 2 to 3 p.m. (Upcoming dates are September 12, October 10, and November 14; December's date will be announced in November.)

Crane encourages everyone who has suffered a loss to attend the monthly after-care meetings to share their feelings with people who understand.

"We look forward to having them join us because none of us alone are as strong as all of us together," he said.

For more information about the funeral home's future programs, please call 734-941-9200. ❑

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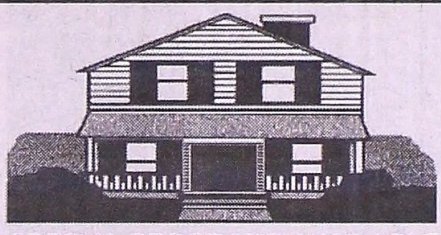

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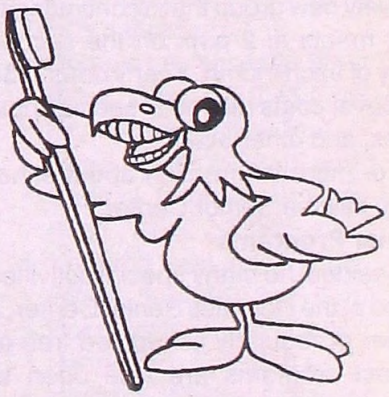

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Obituaries

Robert G. Baker

Robert G. Baker of Belleville, Michigan, passed away on Monday, August 16, 2004, at the age of 78.

He was born in Detroit, Michigan, on Tuesday, June 8, 1926.

Bob – a 1943 graduate of Belleville High School – owned Willis Hardware for 21 years, was employed as an electrical inspector for over 40 years, and worked as an electrician for more than 60 years before he retired

A number of Belleville-area organizations and committees benefited from Bob's service. He was on the Fire Department for 50 years, the Planning Commission for 16 years (including 7 as chairman), and the Downtown Development Authority for 6 years. As a member of the Rotary Club, Bob maintained a perfect attendance record for 33 years. When his children were young, he spent 15 years as a 4-H leader, and also acted as director of the Young Peoples' Society at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in New Boston, Michigan.

Bob received his private pilot license at the age of 59. Besides flying, he enjoyed playing golf, hunting, camping, and snowmobiling.

Bob is survived by his wife, Mildred E. (Mida) Baker; 3 children, Robert G. (Sharon) Baker, Jr. (Coto de Caza, CA), James L. (Linda) Baker (Frankenmuth, MI), and Joan E. (Thomas) Vicary (Oak Ridge, TN); a brother, Alvin (Alice) Baker (Ypsilanti, MI); 10 grandchildren; and 3 great-grandchildren.

His parents, Walter H. and Margaret L. (Yenson) Baker, and a daughter-in-law, Nina Baker, predeceased him.

A funeral service was held on Thursday, August 19, at St. Paul's Church, with Pastor James Frey officiating. Interment was at Glen Eden Cemetery (Livonia, MI). Arrangements were made by the David C. Brown Funeral Home (Belleville).

Memorial contributions to St. Paul's Church or any other charity would be greatly appreciated by the Baker family.

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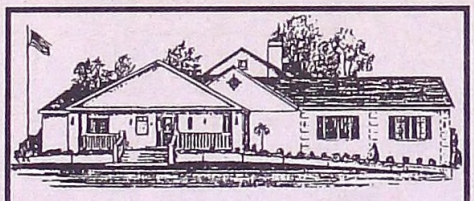

~ Crane ~
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Roger Lee "Mad Dog" Chandler

Roger Lee "Mad Dog" Chandler of Romulus, Michigan – formerly of Ypsilanti and Belleville, Michigan – passed away on Saturday, August 21, 2004, at the age of 48.

The Ypsilanti native was born on Friday, October 28, 1955.

Roger worked at the Ford Motor Company's Rawsonville plant for just over 30 years, and was a member of UAW Local #898. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, target and turkey shooting, and playing horseshoes. He was also a big NASCAR fan and loved motorcycles, especially Harley-Davidsons.

Surviving Roger are 4 children, Temicka S. Jackson (Jefferson City, TN), Roger Anthony (Davon) Chandler (Romulus), Sabrina Renay Chandler (Belleville), and Vanessa Kay Chandler (Belleville); his parents, Richard Lee and Dorothy Marie (Short) Chandler (Romulus); 5 siblings, Jimmie J. Chandler (Detroit, MI), Carolyn S. (Gary) Clemmens (Belleville), Linda G. Chandler (Ypsilanti), Johnny L. (Linda Short) Chandler (Belleville), and Ann M. (Samuel) Griffith (Warren, IN); and 4 grandchildren.

His granddaughter, Courtney Kay Jackson, preceded him in passing on September 3, 1998.

A funeral service was held Wednesday, August 25, at David C. Brown Funeral Home (Belleville), with Pastor Paul D. Bostwick (Maranatha Baptist Church, Belleville) officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock).

Memorial contributions to a trust fund for Roger's children and grandchildren would be greatly appreciated by the Chandler family.

Francis M. Conklin

Francis M. Conklin – a lifelong resident of Sumpter Township, Michigan – passed away on Tuesday, August 10, 2004, at the age of 79.

Francis – born in South Lyon, Michigan, on Wednesday, February 11, 1925 – loved hunting, fishing, and collecting model cars.

He is survived by 5 children, Keith (Cindy) Conklin (New Boston, MI), Verna Montie (Belleville, MI), Pamela Conklin (Romulus, MI), Sharon Saulsgiver, and Julie Ann Conklin (Detroit, MI); 4 siblings, Violet (Larry) Lumetta, Betty (Bud) Horste, Russell (Connie) Conklin, and William (Eunice) Conklin; 13 grandchildren; and dozens of great-grandchildren.

Among those predeceasing Francis were his wife, Wahneta Mary (Sabin) Conklin, who passed away on Monday, September 12, 1994, and his parents, Francis Martin and Margaret (Mandelka) Conklin.

A funeral service was held on Saturday, August 14, at David C. Brown Funeral Home (Belleville, MI), with the Reverend Tom Burdette officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock).

Memorial contributions to the American Cancer Society would be greatly appreciated by the Conklin family.

Drucilla G. Howard

Drucilla G. Howard of Lincoln Park, Michigan, passed away on Saturday, August 21, 2004, at the age of 55.

The West Virginia native was born on Sunday, June 12, 1949.

Drucilla is survived by her husband, Charles G. Howard (Lincoln Park); 2 sons, Charles W. (Jennifer) Howard (Riverview, MI) and Robert Lee Moore (Lincoln Park); her mother, Frankie (Smith) Kilgore (Fredericktown, OH); 2 brothers, William (Sandra) Zimmerman (Warren, MI) and J.R. Perkins (Fredericktown); 4 sisters, Ms. Shirley Faye Colston (Amelia, OH), Mrs. Jackie (Bob) Scott (Marysville, OH), Carla Davis (Fredericktown), and Kim Perkins (Fredericktown); 3 grandchildren, Harvey Russell (Rusty) Chapman, Austin Tyler Chapman, and Charles W. Howard II; and 5 step-grandchildren.

Among those who predeceased her were her daughter, Robin Dione Howard (Monday, November 5, 2001); her father, Henry J. Zimmerman (Saturday, August 12, 2000); her stepmother, Ethel (Mounts) Zimmerman (Saturday, February 19, 1994); and a granddaughter, McKenzie Dione Howard (Thursday, February 26, 2004).

A funeral service was held on Tuesday, August 24, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with Pastor Robert J. White (Grace Baptist Church, Belleville, MI) officiating. Burial was at Romulus Memorial Cemetery. ❑

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